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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

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GROUND FORCES ACTIVITY NINGSIA-HUI AUTONOMOUS REGION LAN-CHOU MILITARY REGION CHINA

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GROUND FORCE ACTIVITY, NINGSIA-HUI AUTONOMOUS REGION, LAN-CHOU MILITARY REGION, CHINA

ABSTRACT

1. This report contains imagery-derived information which shows increased ground force activity occurring in Ningsia-hui Autonomous Region of Lan-chou Military Region. This activity consisted of improvements to existing defensive areas, the construction of major ground force installations, and order-of-battle deployments. This report contains a table, a map, and three photographs.

INTRODUCTION

2. There has been a steady increase in ground force activity in Ningsia-hui Autonomous Region since 1971. A new infantry division was identified in the north and central sections of the region, and a probable internal defense division was identified in the Yin-chuan area. This activity, combined with the upgrading of three defensive areas in the Ho-lan Shan (mountains), significantly improves defensive capabilities in the Huang Ho (river) valley. Construction of the installations housing the infantry divisions spanned the time period July 1971 to April 1974, indicating a gradual and continuing ground force deployment program is under way. This military activity suggests the presence of a yet unlocated army-level headquarters.

BASIC DESCRIPTION

- 3. A new infantry division deployed at the northern tip of the Ho-lan Shan, 25 nautical miles (nm) north of Yin-chuan, was identified in October 1974. Military activity within this area was identified initially in October 1972 when defensive positions were observed under construction. Since then, the defensive areas have been expanded and seven new installations have been identified in various stages of construction. When complete, the installations will be capable of accommodating three infantry regiments, an artillery regiment, an artillery battalion, an AAA gun battalion, and associated divisional headquarters support elements. These installations complement and support the expanded defensive areas which guard northern entrances to the mountains. These defensive areas now contain on-site support facilities, firing ranges, obstacle courses, antitank ditches, artillery positions sited at cave entrances, personnel trenching, and automatic weapon positions. One of the three battalion areas of the artillery regiment at Shih-tsui-shan Barracks Area 3 is shown in Figure 2 and portions of one of the defensive areas are shown in Figure 3.
- 4. A new infantry division was identified in May 1974 deployed along the southern bank of the Huang Ho approximately 60 nm south of Yin-chuan. Ground force deployment to this area was first identified in January 1972 when elements of an artillery regiment were identified at Chin-chi Army Barracks AL 2. Since then, this barracks has been expanded to accommodate a full artillery regiment, and three new installations have been constructed capable of accommodating three infantry regiments, an AAA gun battalion, and associated divisional headquarters support elements. One of the regimental barracks areas, Ho-chia-pao Army Barracks, is shown in Figure 4.
- 5. A possible internal defense division, headquartered in Yin-chuan, was deployed in the central portion of the region. The division, consisting of three internal defense regiments and an artillery battalion, was in the Yin-chuan, Wu-kung, and Pai-li-ching areas. Although all the areas are probably occupied, only the installations in the Pai-li-ching and Yin-chuan areas reflect military activity. The installations at Pai-li-ching were initially identified under construction in October 1972 and have now been expanded to accommodate an internal defense regiment and an artillery battalion. The defensive positions, which guard a southwestern pass through the mountains, were also improved to include artillery positions sited at cave entrances, AAA gun positions, antitank ditches, personnel trenching, and automatic weapon positions.
- 6. Table 1 lists each ground force installation, its BE number and coordinates, its type/size, a basic description, latest order-of-battle, and remarks.

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Shih-tsui-shan Def Area

39-20-30N 106-17-01E

39-15-32N 106-10-40E

39-13-42N 106-15-23E

Shih-tsui-shan Bks & Def Area 2 39-16-40N 106-19-02E

Shih-tsui-shan Bks A POL Stor Area 39-13-35N 106-17-45E

39-12-23N 106-18-54E

Ta-wa-kou Bks Area 39-07-10N 106-22-55E

Yin-chuan Hg Ning-hsis MD

9 Li-chun-ou Def Area 38-25-12N 105-43-33E

10 Wu-chung Army Bks AL 1 37-58-58N 106-12-40E

11 Chin-chi Army Bks AL 2 37-52-10N 106-06-10E

2 SU-76 assault guns, 2 poss armor-ad vehs, 10 trks, 5 vehs (May 75) Facs ucon in Feb 72: 25X1 constr still continues 25X1 on the defensive po-sitions 3 trks (Oct 74; No significant military 25X1 activity observed here since at least Jan 71 Initial constr began in Apr 73, was basically 25X1 complete by Oct 74

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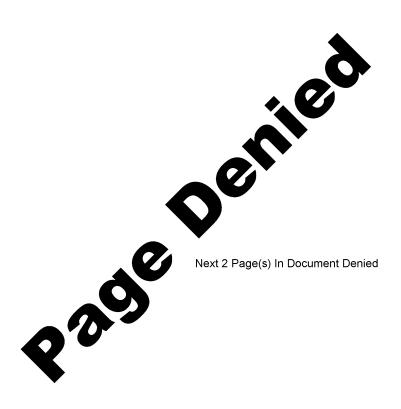
Shen-chia-tan Army Bks 37-27-29N 105-20-28E

37-34-18N 105-54-27E

25X1 25X1 Installation ucon in Feb 72, was basically complete by Now 73

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REFERENCES	25
MAPS OR CHARTS	
ACIC. US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheets 0383-3,4,8,9,13, and 18, scale 1:200,000	
REQUIREMENT	
Project 120901NG	
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